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PROGRESS REPORT OF THE GEOGRAPHIC AREA, ORR
MONTH OF JULY 1958
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF, GEOGRAPHIC RESEARCH

A. Accomplishments and Coordination Activities

1. Geographic Research Area production during the month of July reflected some vacation-time slowdown. However, events in the Middle East stimulated the preparation of two Geographic Intelligence Memorandums on problems in the area; in addition, numerous special requests for spot support were fulfilled. Other significant activities related to new research in support of clandestine planning, and participation in IGY policy advisory meetings.

2. The Cartography Division completed 121 maps and charts (relatively high production) -- 116 for the Agency and 5 for the Department of State. Requests were accepted for 84 maps and charts -- 74 for the Agency and 10 for the Department of State.

3. The Geography Division completed two Geographic Intelligence Reports (GR-192, The Hungary-Yugoslavia Border Zone; [REDACTED] two Geographic Intelligence Memorandums (GM-7, Partition for Cyprus?; GM-8, The Mt. Scopus Problem); one geographic memorandum in the G/I series; and one support job in the G/S series.

4. The Map Library Division received 10,468 maps and 568 related publications from foreign sources during July. Of these, 31% were retained in CIA; 58% sent to AMS; and 8% sent to the Library of Congress. A total of 23,102 map sheets were sent out in response to 1,237 requests, and 222 items distributed in response to 124 requests for related geographic and cartographic material.

5. The Photo Intelligence Division suspended most of its GRA administrative ties in preparation for reactivation as an independent unit in the DD/I.

6. Final arrangements were developed for the programming of 74 USSR city plans requested by DD/P. A special team composed of Cartography and Geography Division personnel will be formed to handle the project.

7. A complete revision of the mission and functions statements for units in the Geographic Research Area was completed and forwarded to St/A.

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8. Major advisory and coordination support related to foreign mapping and aerial survey work was provided to the intelligence community during the month. The support included special reports on developments in the aerial photography [REDACTED]

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9. The Geographic Research Area briefing for the month was presented on 24 July by members of the Near East-Africa Branch, D/GG. The subject was The Middle East crisis.

10. An ad hoc committee under the chairmanship of the Coordination Staff, Geography Division, has decided to recommend the inclusion of certain graphics with the Section 19 of NIS Chapter I. A recommendation to make room for Annuals by slowing the production rate of Chapter IX is also being formulated.

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11. [REDACTED] Special Research Branch, D/GG, chaired the 23 July meeting of the Informal Working Group on the IGY.

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12. [REDACTED], Cartography Division, retired on 31 July after 15 years of service.

13. Several Geographic Area personnel were welcomed into the Career Staff during the month.

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- 2 -

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